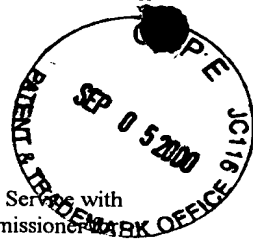


#31/E



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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Judy Paradoski
(Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Paper or Fee)
Judy Paradoski
(Signature of Person Mailing Paper or Fee)

PATENT
Attorney Docket 17616-705

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)	
)	
Hugh R. Sharkey, et al.)	Group Art Unit: 3739
)	
Serial No.: 08/714,987)	Examiner: D. Shay
)	
Filed: September 17, 1996)	
)	
Title: Method and Apparatus for Controlled)	
Contraction of Soft Tissue)	

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-29.
Please add the following new claims.

5/26/01
E1

~~30.~~ An apparatus for contracting collagen fibers in a selected site of a collagen containing tissue which is adjacent to a fluid medium, comprising:
an energy delivery device including a proximal portion and a coaxial distal portion with a blunt periphery guidable and positionable in contact with a surface of the selected site without penetrating the surface of the selected site and configured to provide a selected thermal distribution in the selected